Drought of 2002-03

National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF)

Assistance sought	Assistance approved*	Assistance released	Foodgrains allocated
(Rs. in crores)			(lakh MTs)
1035.07	13.57	—	0.52
1359.03	49.04	—	0.61
(1st Memo)			
2844.90	2853	—	0.42

* subject to adjustment of available balances in Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) of the State.

In response to another Memorandum submitted by the State Government seeking assistance of Rs. 3847 crores for "revival of agriculture sector", a Central team visited the State for assessment of the situation, on the directions of Prime Minister's Office (PMO). The report of the Team is under consideration of the PMO.

Information regarding floods is being collected from the Ministry of Home Affairs, who are concerned in the matter.

Profits of CWC and FCI

860. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC) and Food Corporation of India (FCI) are earning profits recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the storage capacity of each of these corporations alongwith the percentage capacity utilization during the last three years, separately; and

(e) the efforts made by Government to increase the storage capacity particularly in States like Tamil Nadu where procurement is high and also to help the corporation earn profit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) CWC-Yes, Sir. FCI-No, Sir.

(b) The profits of CWC pre-tax during the last three years are as follows:

(*in Rs. crores*)

Year	Profits
2001-2002	90.72
2002-2003	47.62
2003-2004	33.88

(c) In case of FCI, which operates on a 'No Profit, No Loss' basis, the Government fixes the procurement and issue prices of foodgrains, the incidental charges and the quantum of allocation. The difference between the sales realization and the economic cost is reimbursed to the FCI as subsidy.

(d) The storage capacity available with CWC and FCI along with percentage utilization during the last three years is as under.

Year	CWC		FCI	
	Capacity (in lakh tonnes)	Percentage utilization	Capacity (in lakh tonnes)	Percentage utilization
2001-02	86.55	83	358.40	82
2002-03	91.50	74	317.40	59
2003-04	92.64	60	272.40	46

(e) Due to the efforts made in the past, the storage capacity now available in the country, and particularly in procuring States like Tamil Nadu,

is considered adequate. The Government is also supporting CWC in its plans for enhancing the utilization of storage capacity available and its plans for business diversification, to help the Corporation to earn profits.

Fertilizers availability during Kharif

861. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the availability of complex fertilizers has affected the cultivation during the Kharif season; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) The position was tight regarding the availability of Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) during the Kharif, 2004. However, the availability was ensured and no serious shortage of Complex Fertilizers has been reported by any State Government during Kharif, 2004.

Farmers emigrating from A.P.

862. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether hundreds of debt-ridden farmers in Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka had committed suicide during the last seven months;

(b) whether many distressed farmers from Andhra Pradesh are attempting to emigrate to Uganda and Kenya where they have been offered arable land on lease to grow cotton, sugarcane, tobacco and millets;

(c) whether Government are aware that land-related issues have become hypersensitive in Kenya/thereby even endangering the lives of alien farming communities; and

(d) how Government propose to mitigate the suffering of emigrated farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA): (a) to (d) Central Government (Ministry of Agriculture) have not permitted deputing of farmers to foreign countries